Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CANBER 06372 01 OF 02 140820Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-20 MCE-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 OMB-01 COME-00
/112 W
----------086169 140836Z /12
R 140639Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4035
INFO USUN NEW YORK 1016

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 CANBERRA 6372

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, AS, IO
SUBJ: FALSE BRONCO ADVERTISEMENT

REFS: STATE 204008; STATE 189321; CANBERRA 5840

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MELBOURNE AGE RETRACTION OF STORY ON OV-10 BRONCO ADVERTISEMENT CITED REFTEL. WISH TO NOTE THAT "AGE" CLIPPING, TRANSCRIPT OF ABC-TV SEGMENT ON OV-10 HOAX AND ARTICLES IN SYDNEY MORNING HERALD AND (COMMUNIST) TRIBUNE POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT AUGUST 2 UNDER COVER OF CANBERRA A-196.

2. WITH RESPECT TO MELBOURNE AGE STORY, RETRACTION APPEARED ALONGSIDE TWO PHOTOGRAPHS, THE FIRST SHOWING THE SPURIOUS AD WITH THE WORD "FAKE" SUPERIMPOSED ONIT; THE SECOND PHOTOGRAPH WAS OF THE REAL ROCKWELL ADVERTISEMENT WITH THE CAPTION "THE BRONCO WORKHORSE: ASK THAILAND ABOUT IT." TEXT FOLLOWS.

3. "TIMOR BOMBSHELL IS OFF TARGET, THE MELBOURNE AGE, JULY 27, 1978. BEGIN TEXT. WHAT AN EXTRAORDINARY PUZZLE LIES BEHIND THIS ADVERTISEMENT, WHICH NEWS DIARY PUBLICISED LAST TUESDAY.

ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL, WHO MAKE THE BRONCO AEROPLANE, DENY
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CANBER 06372 01 OF 02 140820Z

ABSOLUTELY THAT THEY HAVE EVER INSERTED IT IN ANY MAGAZINE.

FRETILIN IN AUSTRALIA HAVE BEEN PUSHING THE ADVERTISEMENT AS GENUINE. BUT IN FACT IT APPEARS TO BE AN ELABORATE HOAX.

A PHOTOCOPY OF THE ADVERTISEMENT REACHED AUSTRALIA THIS MONTH IN A LETTER FROM NEW YORK DATED JULY 14. THE LETTER WAS

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

DELIVERED TO A FRETILIN SYMPATHISER, MR. DENIS FRENEY, OF SYDNEY,
WHO EDITS THE FORTNIGHTLY PUBLICATION, EAST TIMOR NEWS.

THE LETTERHEAD WAS FRETILIN'S AND THE NAME AT THE BOTTOM WAS
JOSE RAMOS HORTA, FRETILIN'S REPRESENTATIVE AT THE UNITED
NATIONS.

THE LETTER CONTAINED SEVERAL POINTS, INCLUDING TWO PARAGRAPHS
DEVOTED TO THE ALLEGED ADVERTISEMENT, AND SAID:

"I AM ENCLOSING AN ADVERTISEMENT WHICH HAS APPEARED IN ...
AND ... (HERE HE NAMES TO AVIATION MAGAZINES).
"IT IS A DISTASTEFUL ADVERTISEMENT AND COULD BE USEFUL IN
PUBLICISING US-SUPPLIED WEAPONS TO INDONESIA."

MR. FRENEY SAYS HE RECEIVES A LOT OF CORRESPONDENCE FROM MR, HORTA
AND IS CONVINCED THE SIGNATURE IS GENUINE. NOT ONLY THAT --
SOME OF THE MATTERS RAISED IN THE LETTER INDICATE THAT ONLY
MR. HORTA COULD HAVE WRITTEN IT, HE SAYS.

MR. FRENEY'S APPROXIMATE COUNTERPART IN MELBOURNE IS MR. CHRIS
SANTOS, FRETILIN'S INFORMATION OFFICER IN AUSTRALIA.

MR. SANTOS RECEIVED PHOTCOPIES OF THE LETTER AND THE ADVERT-
ISEMENT FROM MR. FRENEY. THE TWO OF THEM SWAP CORRESPONDENCE
ABOUT ANYTHING OF THIS NATURE.
UNCLASSIFIED

ACTING ON MR. SANTOS' ASSURANCES THAT THE ADVERTISEMENT WAS
GENUINE, AND WISHING TO BRING THE MATTER INTO THE OPEN FOR
PUBLIC SCRUTINY, "THE AGE" PUBLISHED A PICTURE OF THE
ADVERTISEMENT LAST TUESDAY AND SAID THAT IF IT WERE TRUE,
IT WAS LOATHSOME.

ON TUESDAY, MR. SANTOS WAS TOLD THAT IT MIGHT BE A HOAX. HE
SAID YESTERDAY THAT ON LEARNING THIS, HE CONTACTED THE CUBAN
EMBASSY TO GET A TELEX NUMBER FOR MR. HORTA, WHO IS SAID TO
BE VISITING CUBA WITH A FRETILIN DELEGATION.

MR. SANTOS SAID HE SENT MR. HORTA A TELEX MESSAGE ASKING FOR AN
EXPLANATION. YESTERDAY HE WAS STILL WAITING FOR AREPLY.

IN SYDNEY, MR. FRENEY SAID HE DID NOT THINK MR. HORTA WOULD
RETURN TO NEW YORK UNTIL AUGUST 30, BECAUSE AFTER CUBA HE WOULD
BE TOURING THE CARIBBEAN. HE DOUBTED IF MR. SANTOS'S TELEX
MESSAGE WOULD REACH MR. HORTA QUICKLY BECAUSE YESTERDAY WAS
A CUBAN NATIONAL HOLIDAY.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CANBER 06372 02 OF 02 140819Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-20 MCE-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 COME-00
/112 W
----------086157 140836Z /12
R 140639Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4036
INFO USUN NEW YORK 1017

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 CANBERRA 6372

INQUIRIES WHICH "THE AGE" HAS MADE IN MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY HAVE NOT TURNED UP THE ALLEGED ADVERTISEMENT IN EITHER OF THE TWO MAGAZINES MR. HORTA NAMED.

WHILE EVERYONE WAITS FOR HIS EXPLANATION, THE QUESTION ARISES: HOW WAS THE ALLEGED ADVERTISEMENT COMPILED? WHO HAD THE EXPERTISE TO PUT IT TOGETHER?

THE ANSWER MAY LIE IN A GENUINE ADVERTISEMENT WHICH ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHED ON MAY 7, 1976, IN THE FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW.

THE TYPOGRAPHY IS THE SAME, THE LAYOUT IS THE SAME AND EVERYTHING ELSE IS THE SAME -- EXCEPT FOR ONE WORD. THE GENUINE ADVERTISEMENT USES THE TEXT, "ASK THAILAND ABOUT IT". THE DVERTISEMENT PUBLISHED IN "THE AGE" ON TUESDAY SAYS, "ASK TIMOR ABOUT IT."

IT IS EASYIN A PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT, OR EVEN OUTSIDE IT, TO REMOVE OR ERASE A WORD AND SUBSTITUTE ANOTHER.

AN INTERESTING CLUE SUGGESTS THAT THIS IN FACT HAPPENED. IF YOU EXAMINE THE GENUINE ADVERTISEMENT, YOU WILL SEE THAT THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CANBER 06372 02 OF 02 140819Z

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

TWO LINES OF BIG LETTERS ARE NEATLY BALANCED, A CUSTOMARY
PRACTICE IN PRINTING.

THE WHITE SPACE AT EITHER END OF THE BOTTOM LINE IS THE
SAME WIDTH.

THIS IS NOT TRUE OF THE "TIMOR ADVERTISEMENT. THE SPACE AT THE
END OF THE BOTTOM LINE IS GREATER THAN THAT AT THE BEGINNING.
IF THE WORD TIMOR HAS BEEN SUBSTITUTED FOR THE WORD THAILAND,
THIS UNEVEN SPACING WOULD HAVE BEEN A NATURAL RESULT BECAUSE
TIMOR IS SHORTER.

NO GOOD PRINTER WOULD ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN. HE WOULD EITHER
CENTRE THE BOTTOM LINE IN RELATION TO THE TOP, OR HE WOULD LINE
UP THE BEGINNING OF EACH LINE IN EXACTLY THE SAME PLACE.

SO THE TIMOR ADVERTISEMENT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN ALTERED BY
A NOVICE.

BUT WHO? ON WHOSE INSTRUCTIONS? FOR WHAT REASON? WHAT A PITY
THAT MR. HORTA CANNOT BE CONTACTED EASILY IN CUBA. SINCE IT WAS
HE WHO APPARENTLY SENT THE ADVERTISEMENT TO AUSTRALIA FOR
DISSEMINATION, IT IS HE WHO IS IN THE BEST POSITION TO OFFCER
EXPLANATIONS.

IF, AS IT NOW SEEMS, THERE HAS BEEN A HOAX, "THE AGE" REGRETS
THE EMBARRASSMENT TO ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND
ITS AUSTRALIAN AFFILIATES.

IN AUSTRALIA, ROCKWELL MANUFACTURES HEAVY TRUCK AXLES AND RADIO
EQUIPMENT. IT ALSO DISTRIBUTES CIVILIAN AEROPLANES AND OTHER
PRODUCTS THROUGH AGENCIES. IT HAS MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR
INVESTMENTS IN MANUFACTURING EQUIPMENT IN AUSTRALIA.
UNCLASSIFIED

NEWS DIARY AWAITS FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. END TEXT.
ALSTON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT, ANTIAMERICAN, FRAUDS, BUSINESS REPUTATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CANBER06372
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780331-0776
Format: TEL
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780869/aaaacfij.tel
Line Count: 212
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 90ff0d64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 204008, 78 STATE 189321, 78 CANBERRA 5840
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1753035
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FALSE BRONCO ADVERTISEMENT
TAGS: PEPR, SOPN, EIND, AS, IO, US, ROCKWELL INTL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/90ff0d64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014